

THE TREEHOUSE SCHOOL UPDATE

Issue 126
September 2015



The Treehouse School

‘Alex, Freya, Tess and Mags you were amazing children to work with.’ Cassie - parent.



‘The children were a real credit to you and the school at the Food for Thought launch. All so polite and confident. Just lovely to see’.
Anita - guest

Treehouse Lunches at The Partridge

Following the successful and very well attended ‘Food for Thought’ event last week, we would like to draw your attention to three dates when the children will be cooking and serving lunch at The Partridge Pub, Wallingford: November 4th, March 2nd and May 11th. As well as the opportunity for local businesses and organisations to sample our delicious school lunches (please promote amongst your social circle/workplace), perhaps you might like to book a table for yourself or friends. For more information or to book one of our two course lunches priced £10.00, please contact: office@thetreehouseschool.org.uk

Please save and send in any unwanted plastic bottles for our apple juice.

Less is More?

Well that was a bit of a week wasn't it? A Service of Remembrance at The Pavilion; apple harvest; the launch of our ‘Food for Thought’ campaign; and a visit to local conservationist Tony Rayner's beautiful cottage for the first of our seasonal wildlife studies. Phew! Throw in a pet show that Herbie is busy organising; a visit to Will's farm; some cycling lessons courtesy of local expert Michael Townshend; a potential order for one hundred Christmas cards from local building company Boshers; and Year Six visits to several secondary schools, and you can see why some of us might be feeling a little weary this weekend! One of our aims for the year was to do less, well. Despite our best efforts, some weeks we get it wrong, however The Gang (and their parents!) always rise to the challenge and overwhelm us with their tenacity, adaptability and enthusiasm. They are a credit to The Treehouse

Dates for Your Diaries

Mon 12th Oct	Apple pressing at The Treehouse
	Multiskills PE in Treehouse Garden
Tues 13th Oct	Treehouse Trading
	Open Morning at Langtree
	Cycling for Houses/Apprentices – parents welcome to join us for the final Apprentice session.
Thurs 14th Oct	Last cycling session for the Houses
	Parents of the Trees meeting with Shaz 2pm – 3.15pm at The Treehouse.
Fri 15th Oct	Friday Forest. Apprentices and Houses walking to Wittenham Clumps. Parents, dogs etc. welcome to join us!
Mon 19th Oct	Eccleston Family music choice.
	Multiskills PE in Treehouse Garden
Tues 20th Oct	Treehouse Trading cancelled due to Apple Event.
Weds 21st Oct	Apple Sale at The Day Centre 1.30 – 2.30 pm. Please spread the word! Optional early finish.
Friday 23rd Oct	Treehouse Pet Show at The Scout Hall 10.30 – 11.30 am.
26th – 30th October	Half Term
Sat 31st Oct	10 am Allotment Tidy – adults only.
Sun 1st Nov	First Aid Course in the Scout Hall
Mon 2nd Nov	Craft Taster week at The Treehouse

Please note: The Treehouse Auction of Promises has changed to Friday 20th November 7pm at The Great Hall Cholsey. We hope to see you there.



Going for Gold!

Keeping You and Your Child in the Loop...Pupil Voice

We have now achieved three school weeks without a car in sight at The Treehouse. Thank you all for rising to the latest Treehouse challenge. We believe this is such an important element of our work with the children, alongside others of course, such as giving them a 'real' voice.

I am sorry that you couldn't all be a 'fly on the wall' at our recent School Meeting when the 'no car fortnight' was raised by eight year old Herb (who incidentally, e-mailed us all last week to ask if he could be known as Herb and not Herbie from now on!). Having congratulated us all on our combined efforts to find sustainable ways to travel to school, Herb asked The Gang if they thought the challenge could be extended, as had been the case with the 'no food waste challenge'. An extremely (adult-free) sophisticated, intelligent and sensitive discussion followed with the consensus that 'nobody living in the village should use a car to get to school' but those living further afield might if they *needed* to. By the way, all of the children present thought it was reasonable for adults to use cars to do their food shopping!

Meetings and discussions like these with children have always been the highlight of my work in schools. You are most welcome to join us (Wednesday at 9.15 am) if you would like to.

Looking for something to do at home...

Learner Smarties:

- **Houses:** Share your Learning Log with a parent, discussing any new entries with them. Add an entry about any Secondary School visits that you have made recently, perhaps writing about your likes/dislikes/puzzles or patterns.
- Draw a picture of something that you spotted during our visit to Red Cow Cottage on Friday. Can you find out more about it to share with the rest of The Gang?
- Ask a parent to take you for a cycle ride around the village. Practise starting and ending a journey safely; turning left/right from a major road into a minor road, and a minor road into a major road; and a road turn.

Nature Smarties

- Create your own 'Autumn Alphabet'. Can you think of something for each letter of the alphabet?

Practically Smarties:

- Think about what you could make for our Apple Sale on Wednesday 21st October. Try your recipes out at Treehouse Trading or on The Gang at lunch time over the next week or so.

Word Smarties:

- Take turns to roll a dice and think of a word containing that number of syllables e.g. 1 = Lee, 2 = Treehouse etc. Write it down (if you can, or ask an adult to). The winner is the player with the most syllables on their list at the end of an agreed amount of time.



Thank you Alison and James for donating the apples from your orchard, and to everybody who helped us with the apple harvest. We have already enjoyed eating red Worcester's at snack time, and delicious baked bramleys and an apple crumble at lunchtime.